

NCDOT TO HOLD PUBLIC HEARING DECEMBER 3 IN WILLIAMSTON FOR THE PROPOSED WIDENING OF U.S. 17 IN BEAUFORT AND MARTIN COUNTIES

TIP Project No. R-2511

The N.C. Department of Transportation will hold a public hearing in December to inform citizens of a proposed project to widen U.S. 17 from north of N.C. 171 in Beaufort County to south of Williamston in Martin County.

The informal hearing will take place on Tuesday, Dec. 3, from 4 to 7 p.m. at Macedonia Christian Church, located at 7640 U.S. 17 in Williamston. Interested citizens may attend at any time and NCDOT representatives will be available to answer questions and receive comments regarding the proposed project. No formal presentation will be made. Attendees will also have the opportunity to submit written comments and questions, which will be taken into consideration as the project is planned.

The purpose of this project is to alleviate congestion and improve travel along U.S. 17. Plans include widening this section of U.S. 17 from two to four lanes with a 46-foot-wide median. A “super-street” design is proposed, similar to the recently widened portion of U.S. 17 south of N.C. 171. No left turns would be allowed onto U.S. 17 from side roads; however, breaks in the median would be provided for motorists to make U-turns. An Environmental Assessment (EA) was approved in May 2013 for the project.

The project will require the acquisition of additional right of way and the relocation of homes and businesses. Partial control of access is proposed and the location of access points will be determined during project design. The selected design will be presented at the hearing.

The public can view maps displaying the location and design of the project, and a copy of the EA online at <http://www.ncdot.gov/projects/publicmeetings>, as well as at the following locations:

- NCDOT Division 1 Resident Engineer’s Office, 19210 U.S. 64 East, Williamston;
- NCDOT Division 2 District Engineer’s Office, 1701 W. 5th Street, Washington; and
- Town of Williamston – Office of Town Clerk, 102 East. Main Street, Williamston

For additional information, contact Diane Wilson, NCDOT-Human Environment Section at 1598 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, N.C. 27699-1598, by phone at (919) 707-6073, or by email at pdwilson1@ncdot.gov. All comments must be received no later than Friday, Dec. 20, 2013

NCDOT will provide auxiliary aids and services under the Americans with Disabilities Act for disabled persons who wish to participate in this hearing. Anyone requiring special services should contact Wilson as early as possible so that arrangements can be made.

Persons who speak Spanish and do not speak English, or have a limited ability to read, speak or understand English, may receive interpretive services upon request prior to the meeting by calling 1-800-481-6494.